

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 11-14 currently appear in this application. The Office Action of November 15, 2006, has been carefully studied. These claims define novel and unobvious subject matter under Sections 102 and 103 of 35 U.S.C., and therefore should be allowed. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration, entry of the present amendment, and formal allowance of the claims.

Art Rejections

Claims 6, 8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over prior art discussed in the applicants' specification at pages 6-7 referring to Schimitzova et al., *CMLS Cell Mol. Life Sci* (1998), 12020-1030 in view of Oka et al., *International Immunology* **1**, 2001, 5212-532[sic].

The present amendment cancels claims 6, 8 and 10. Therefore, this rejection is now moot.

Objections

Claim 14 is objected to because it depends from rejected independent claim 6.

The present amendment amends claim 14 to include all of the limitations of cancelled claim 6.

Appln. No. 10/525,567
Amd. dated January 8, 2007
Reply to Office Action of November 15, 2006

Allowed Claims

Claims 11-13 are allowed.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted
that the claims are now in condition for allowance, and
favorable action thereon is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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